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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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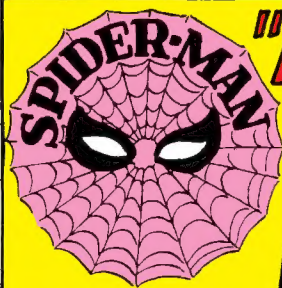
IT HAD TO HAPPEN!
SOONER OR LATER,
SPIDER-MAN
WAS BOUND TO BATTLE

"DOCTOR DOOM!"

THIS IS YOUR *FINISH*,
SPIDER-MAN! IF THE
FANTASTIC FOUR THEMSELVES
COULD NOT STOP ME, WHAT
CHANCE HAVE YOU?

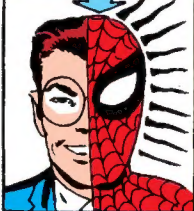


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"MARKED FOR DESTRUCTION BY **DR. DOOM!**"

FEATURING



PETER PARKER
ALIAS
SPIDER-MAN



THE AWESOME
**DOCTOR
DOOM!**

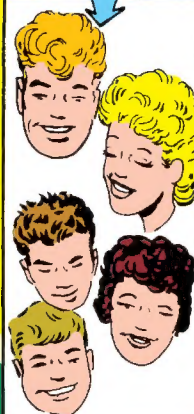


J. JONAH
JAMESON
AND HIS
SECRETARY,
BETTY BRANT

SPIDER-MAN AND THE ARCH-FOE
OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR, FACE-TO-
FACE FOR THE FIRST TIME!



FEATURING



FLASH
THOMPSON,
LIZ ALLAN,
AND THEIR
ASSORTED
CLASSMATES



THE
**OTHER
SPIDER-MAN!**

4



AND THE
WORLD'S MOST
FABULOUS
SUPER-TEAM!

WRITTEN BY... *Stan Lee*

DRAWN BY... *S. Ditko*

LETTERING...
S. Rosen

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED, WHEN YOU START READING A COMIC MAG, THE OPENING CAPTION TELLS YOU THAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO READ THE MOST EXCITING STORY EVER WRITTEN... WITH THE MOST DANGEROUS MENACE, AND THE MOST SUSPENSEFUL PLOT?? WELL, WE'RE GOING TO TRY TO BE MORE HONEST! THIS MAY **NOT** BE THE GREATEST STORY EVER WRITTEN! YOU MAY HAVE READ ABOUT MORE EXCITING VILLAINS! AND YOU MAY HAVE THRILLED TO BETTER PLOTS! BUT, Y'KNOW SOMETHING? WE CAN'T SEE **HOW!**

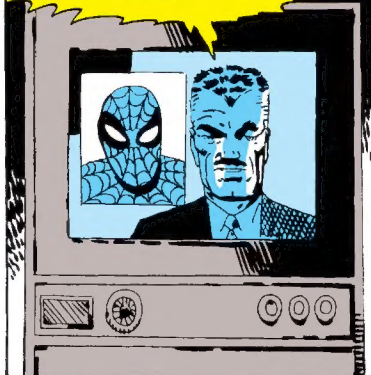
YOU ARE LOOKING AT ONE OF THE FEW CANDID ACTION FILMS EVER TAKEN OF **SPIDER-MAN** BY A NEWSREEL PHOTOGRAPHER!



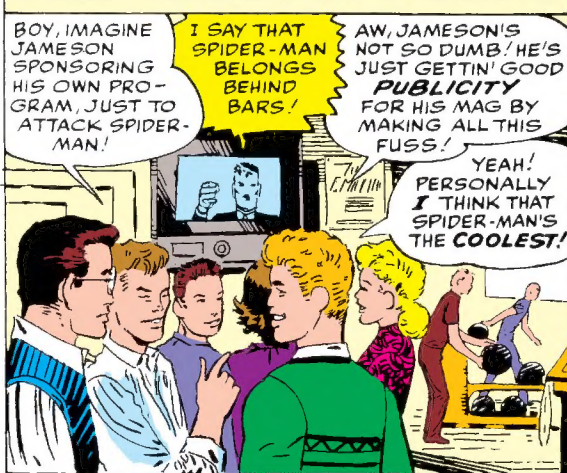
BY NOW THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS OF **SPIDER-MAN'S** EXISTENCE! BUT THE WORLD **DOESN'T** KNOW HIS TRUE IDENTITY, OR HIS REAL MOTIVES! AND THAT IS WHAT THIS PROGRAM INTENDS TO INVESTIGATE!



MY NAME IS J. JONAH JAMESON, PUBLISHER OF **NOW** MAGAZINE AND THE **DAILY BUGLE**! I AM SPONSORING THIS PROGRAM IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, TO EXPOSE **SPIDER-MAN** TO THE PUBLIC AS THE MENACE HE IS!



ANY TV SHOW ABOUT THE COLORFUL **SPIDER-MAN** IS BOUND TO ATTRACT A LARGE AUDIENCE! EVEN TEEN-AGERS IN A LOCAL BOWLING ALLEY INTERRUPT THEIR GAME TO VIEW THE PROGRAM...



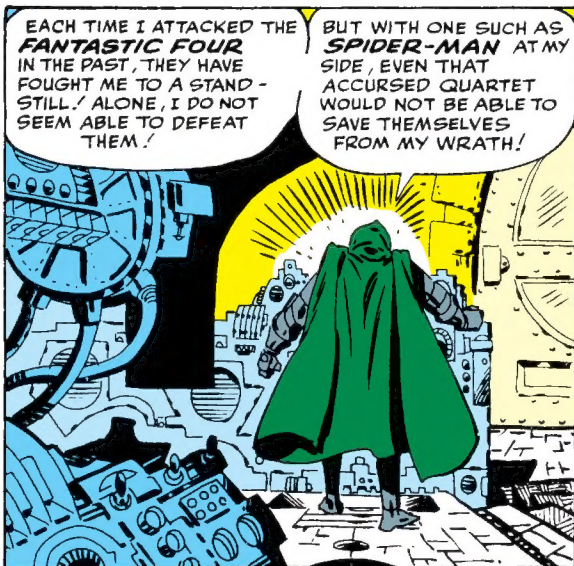
G'WAN, PARKER, GET LOST! YOU'RE IN THE WRONG PLACE, ANYHOW! THIS IS A BOWLING ALLEY, NOT A **KNITTING PARLOR**!

THAT'S IT, FLASH! KEEP IT UP! ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'LL GO TOO FAR, AND YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT **HIT** YOU! THERE'S EVEN A LIMIT TO **SPIDER-MAN'S** PATIENCE!



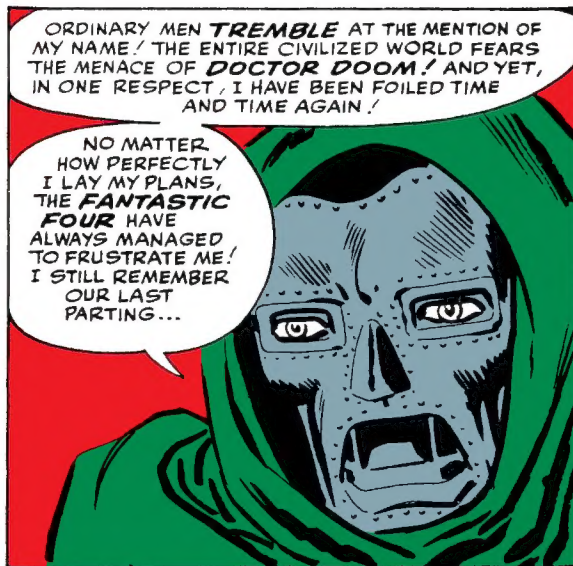
BUT, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN, **ANOTHER** LISTENER HEARS JAMESON'S PROGRAM, A **STRANGE** AND **SINISTER** LISTENER!





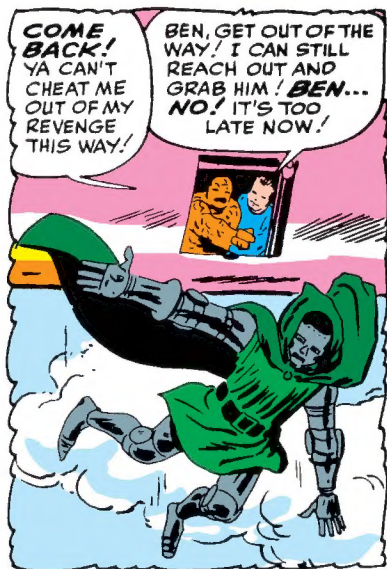
EACH TIME I ATTACKED THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** IN THE PAST, THEY HAVE FOUGHT ME TO A STAND-STILL. ALONE, I DO NOT SEEM ABLE TO DEFEAT THEM!

BUT WITH ONE SUCH AS **SPIDER-MAN** AT MY SIDE, EVEN THAT ACCURSED QUARTET WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SAVE THEMSELVES FROM MY WRATH!



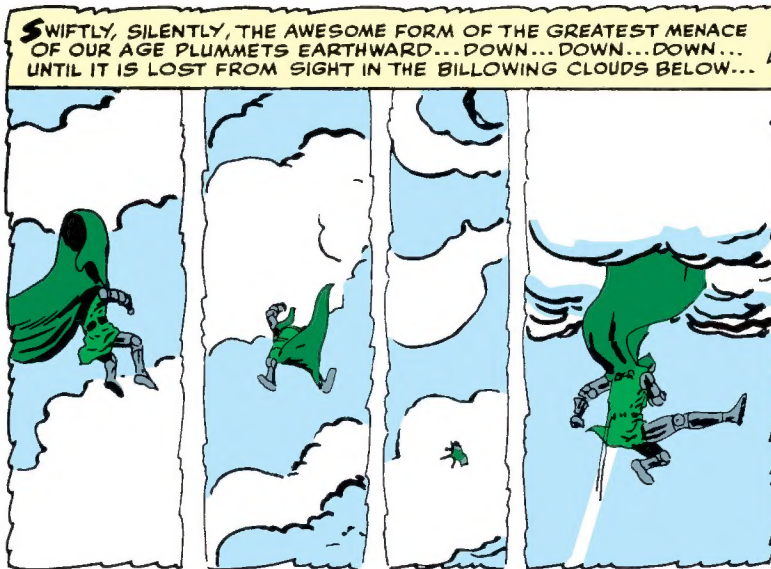
ORDINARY MEN **TREMBLE** AT THE MENTION OF MY NAME! THE ENTIRE CIVILIZED WORLD FEARS THE MENACE OF **DOCTOR DOOM**! AND YET, IN ONE RESPECT, I HAVE BEEN FOILED TIME AND TIME AGAIN!

NO MATTER HOW PERFECTLY I LAY MY PLANS, THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** HAVE ALWAYS MANAGED TO FRUSTRATE ME! I STILL REMEMBER OUR LAST PARTING...

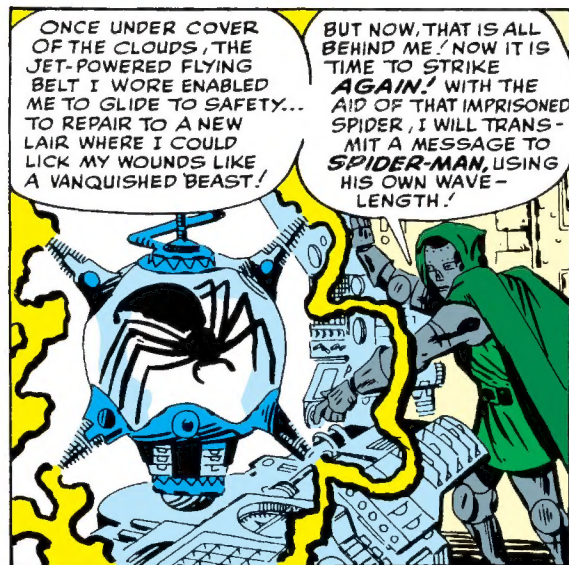


COME BACK! YA CAN'T CHEAT ME OUT OF MY REVENGE THIS WAY!

BEN, GET OUT OF THE WAY! I CAN STILL REACH OUT AND GRAB HIM! **BEN...** NO! IT'S TOO LATE NOW!

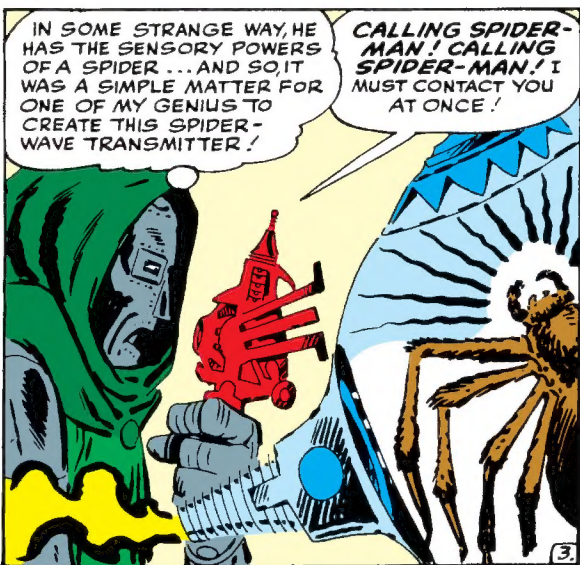


SWIFTLY, SILENTLY, THE AWESOME FORM OF THE GREATEST MENACE OF OUR AGE PLUMMETS EARTHWARD... DOWN... DOWN... DOWN... UNTIL IT IS LOST FROM SIGHT IN THE BILLLOWING CLOUDS BELOW...



ONCE UNDER COVER OF THE CLOUDS, THE JET-POWERED FLYING BELT I WORE ENABLED ME TO GLIDE TO SAFETY... TO REPAIR TO A NEW LAIR WHERE I COULD LICK MY WOUNDS LIKE A VANQUISHED BEAST!

BUT NOW, THAT IS ALL BEHIND ME. NOW IT IS TIME TO STRIKE **AGAIN!** WITH THE AID OF THAT IMPRISONED SPIDER, I WILL TRANSMIT A MESSAGE TO **SPIDER-MAN**, USING HIS OWN WAVE-LENGTH!



IN SOME STRANGE WAY, HE HAS THE SENSORY POWERS OF A SPIDER... AND SO IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER FOR ONE OF MY GENIUS TO CREATE THIS SPIDER-WAVE TRANSMITTER!

CALLING SPIDER-MAN! CALLING SPIDER-MAN! I MUST CONTACT YOU AT ONCE!

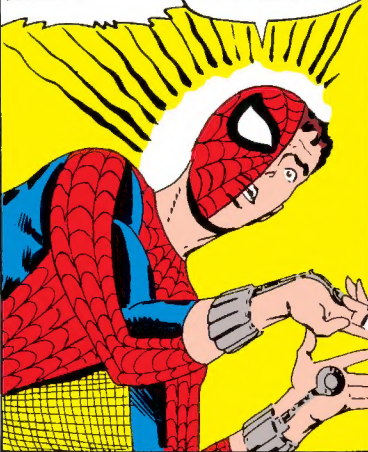
MEANWHILE, AT HOME, PETER PARKER PRACTICES HIS AGILITY WITH HIS WEB, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS ROOM...

IF THE GANG AT THE BOWLING ALLEY COULD SEE ME **NOW!**



CALLING SPIDER-MAN! CALLING SPIDER-MAN!

I CAN SENSE A MESSAGE! SOMEONE IS TRYING TO REACH ME!



WHO CAN IT **BE?** HOW COULD ANYONE HAVE FIGURED OUT A WAY TO REACH ME THROUGH MY SPIDER'S SENSE?

WELL, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!

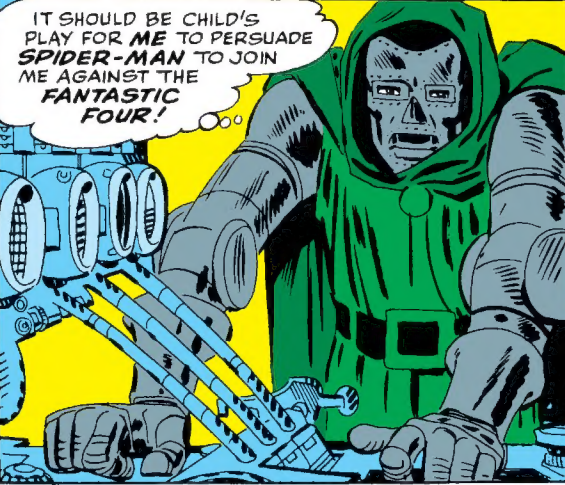


IT'S A SIMPLE MATTER FOR ME TO FOLLOW THE SENSORY IMPULSES TO THEIR SOURCE! BOY, IT'S GREAT TO BE GETTING BACK INTO ACTION AGAIN!

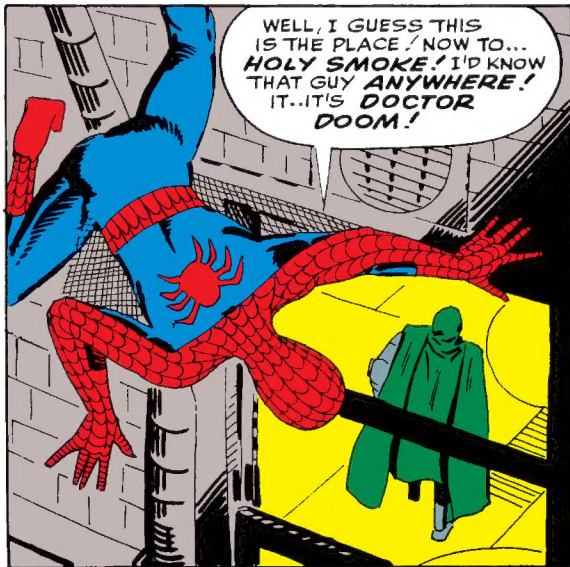


BUT, PERHAPS SPIDER-MAN WOULD NOT BE QUITE SO ENTHUSIASTIC IF HE KNEW **WHO** WAS WAITING FOR HIM AT HIS ULTIMATE DESTINATION!

IT SHOULD BE CHILD'S PLAY FOR **ME** TO PERSUADE **SPIDER-MAN** TO JOIN ME AGAINST THE **FANTASTIC FOUR!**



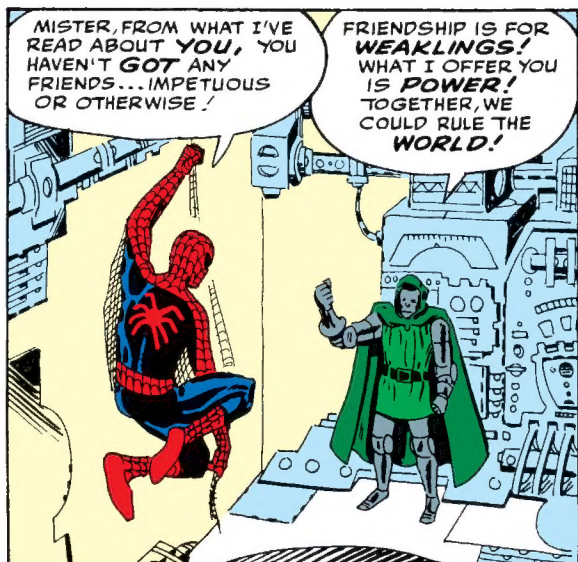
WELL, I GUESS THIS IS THE PLACE! NOW TO... **HOLY SMOKE!** I'D KNOW THAT GUY **ANYWHERE!** IT...IT'S **DOCTOR DOOM!**



SO IT WAS **YOU** WHO TRIED TO CONTACT ME, **DOOM?**! IT WOULD HAVE HAD TO BE SOMEONE WITH YOUR TALENT! BUT **WHY?**

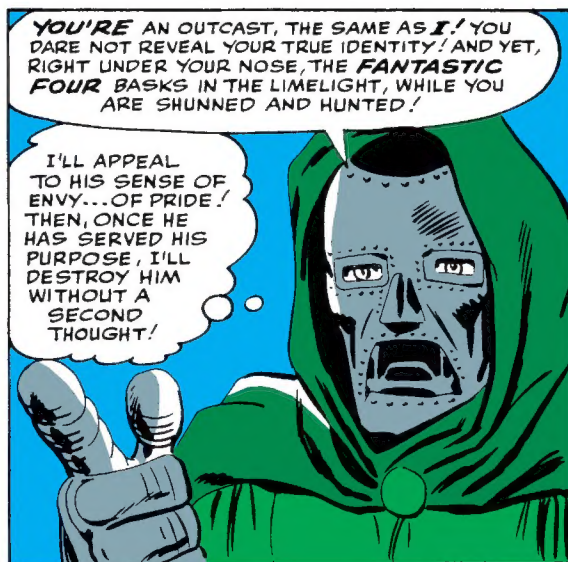
AH, **SPIDER-MAN!** IS IT NECESSARY FOR YOU TO MAKE YOUR ENTRANCE QUITE SO **DRAMATIC**, MY IMPETUOUS FRIEND?





MISTER, FROM WHAT I'VE READ ABOUT YOU, YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY FRIENDS... IMPETUOUS OR OTHERWISE!

FRIENDSHIP IS FOR WEAKLINGS! WHAT I OFFER YOU IS **POWER!** TOGETHER, WE COULD RULE THE WORLD!



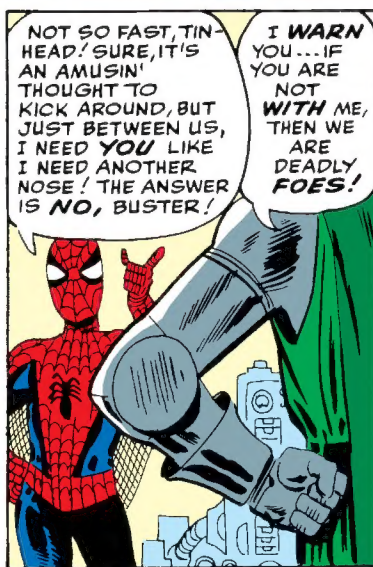
YOU'RE AN OUTCAST, THE SAME AS I! YOU DARE NOT REVEAL YOUR TRUE IDENTITY! AND YET, RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE, THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** BASKS IN THE LIMELIGHT, WHILE YOU ARE SHUNNED AND HUNTED!

I'LL APPEAL TO HIS SENSE OF ENVY... OF PRIDE! THEN, ONCE HE HAS SERVED HIS PURPOSE, I'LL DESTROY HIM WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT!



ME TEAM UP WITH **YOU**, HUH? MAN, WOULDN'T **THAT** BE A GASSER? JONAH JAMESON WOULD **REALLY** HAVE SOMETHING TO HOWL ABOUT THEN!

AH, SO YOU WILL **DO** IT! SPEAK!! GIVE ME YOUR WORD!



NOT SO FAST, TIN-HEAD! SURE, IT'S AN AMUSIN' THOUGHT TO KICK AROUND, BUT JUST BETWEEN US, I NEED **YOU** LIKE I NEED ANOTHER NOSE! THE ANSWER IS **NO**, BUSTER!

I **WARN** YOU... IF YOU ARE NOT **WITH** ME, THEN WE ARE DEADLY **FOES!**

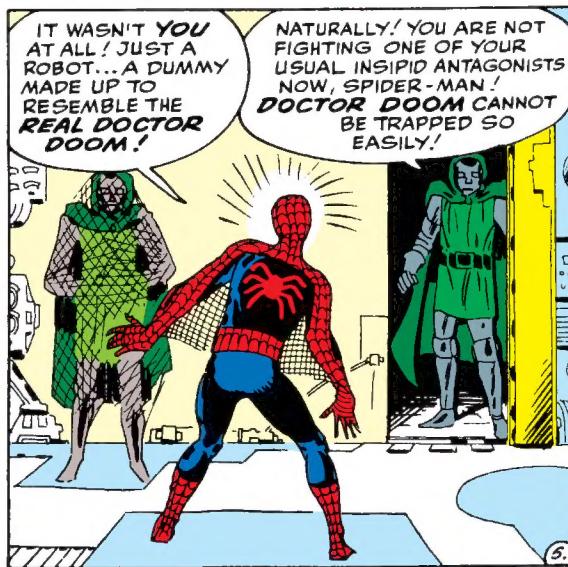


DOC, YOU'RE SCARIN' ME PLUMB OUT OF MY WITS! HERE, CHEW ON THIS HUNK OF **WEB** FOR A WHILE!



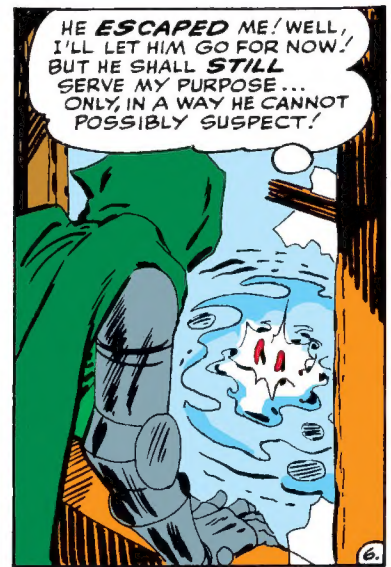
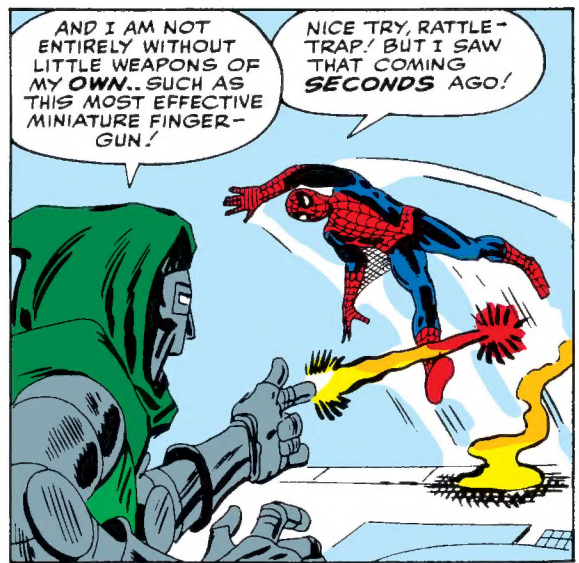
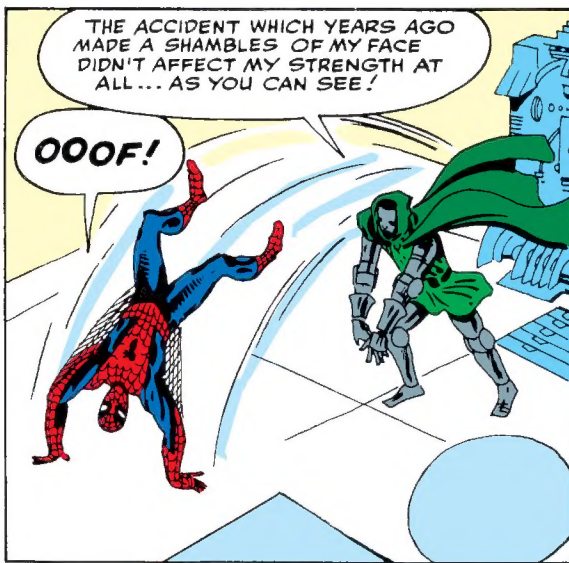
THAT'LL KEEP YOU UNDER WRAPS WHILE I FIGURE OUT WHAT TO **DO** WITH YOU! SAY, HOW COME YOU'RE SO QUIET... SO STILL? CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

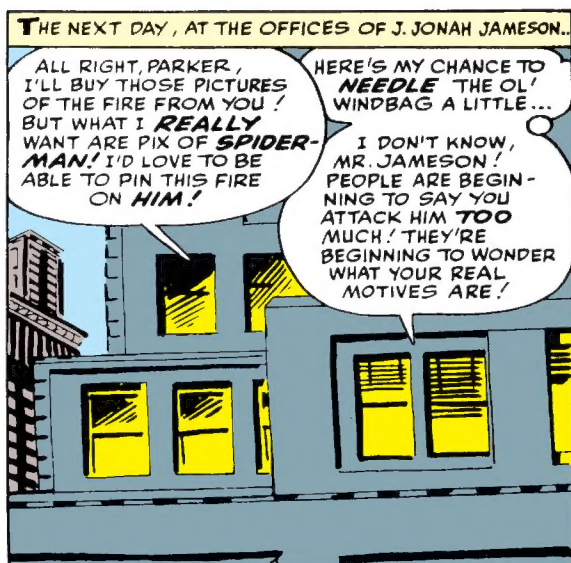
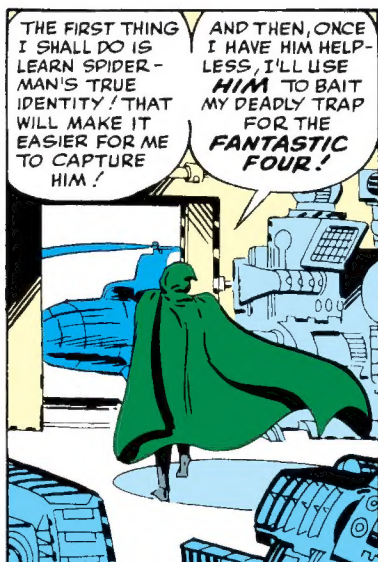
YOU BRAZEN FOOL! HAVEN'T YOU **GUESSED** YET?

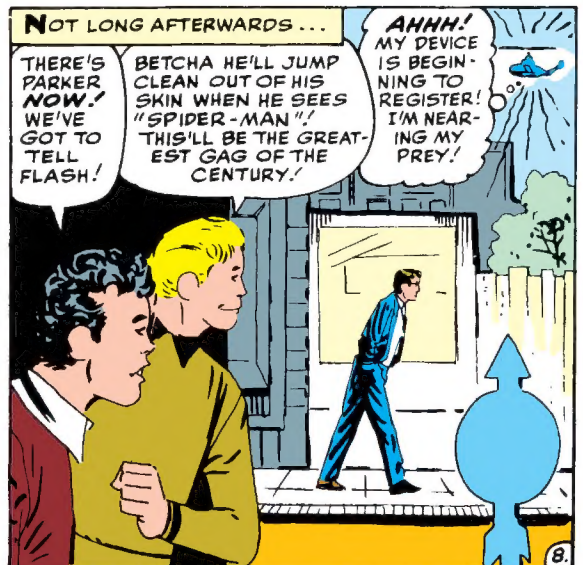
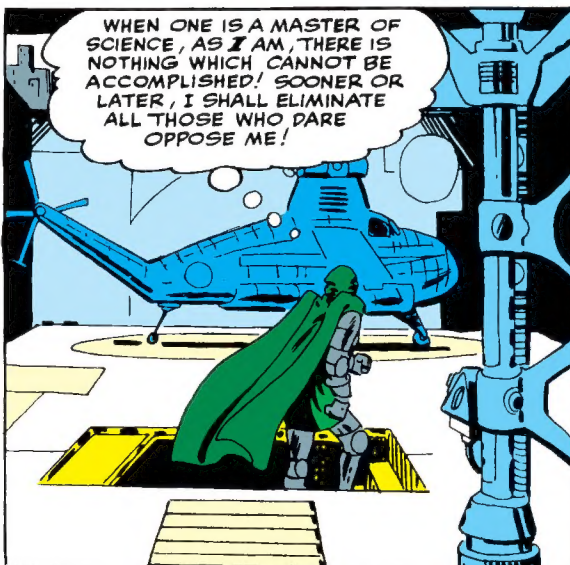
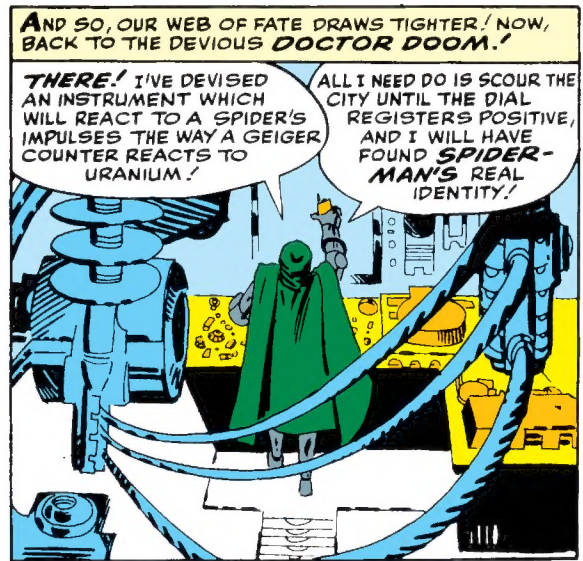
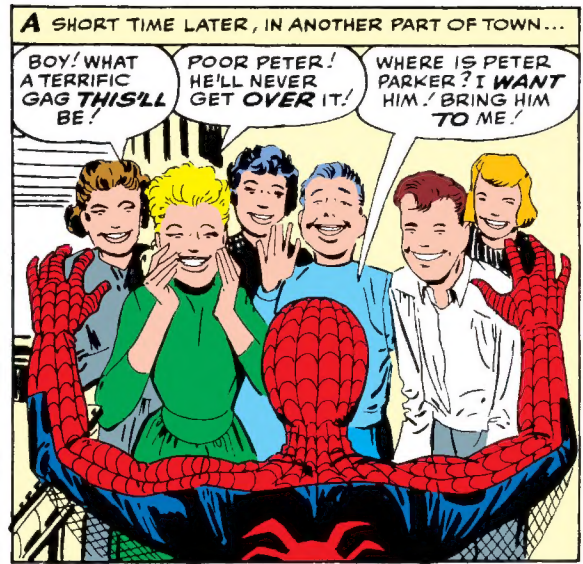
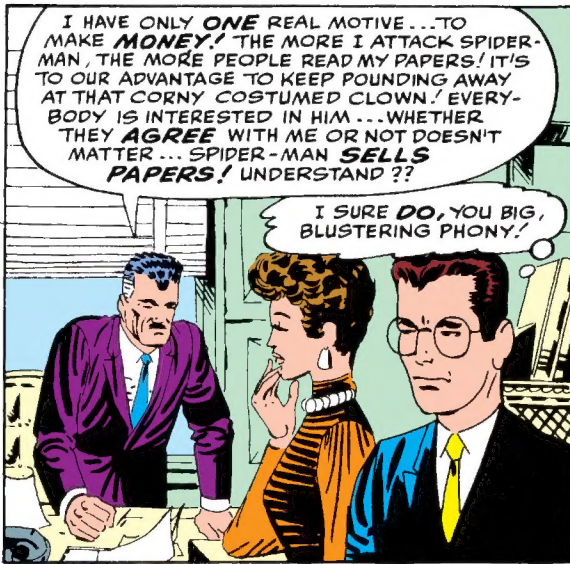


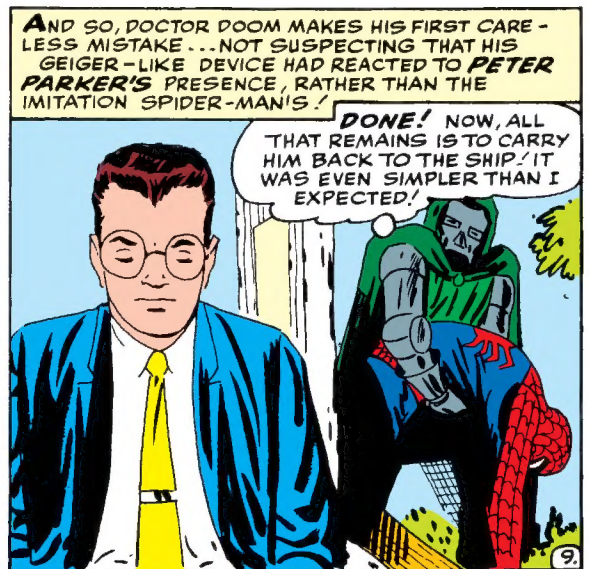
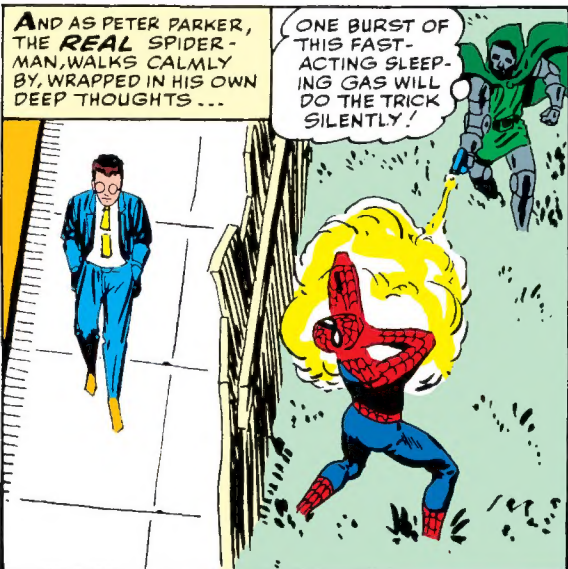
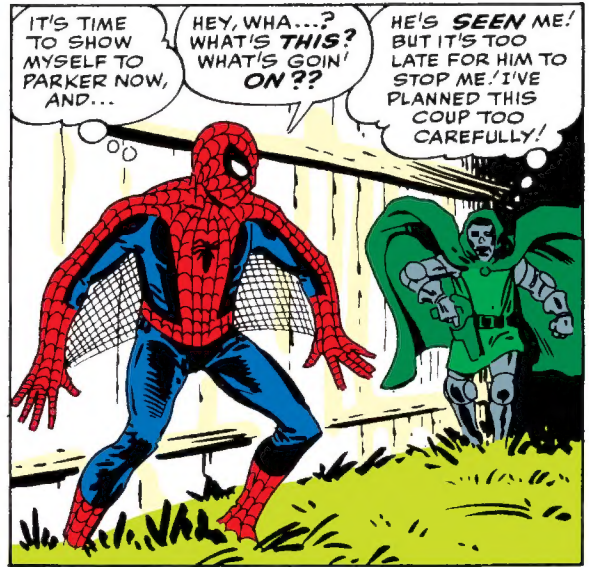
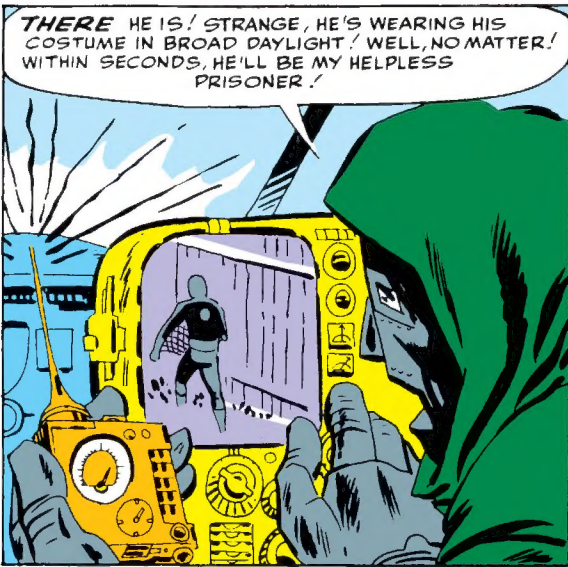
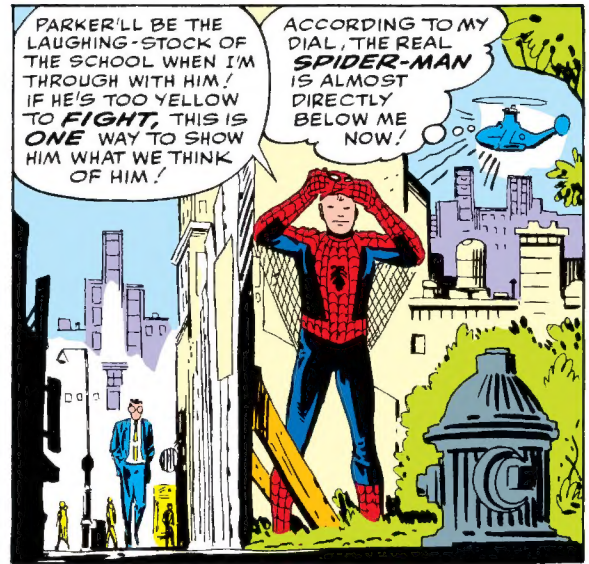
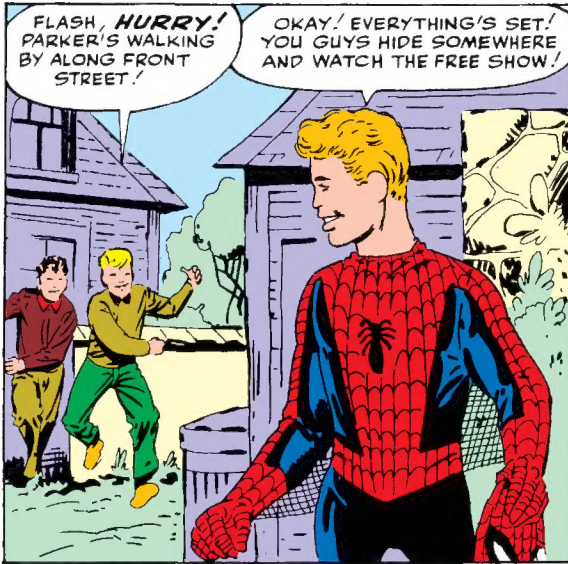
IT WASN'T **YOU** AT ALL! JUST A ROBOT... A DUMMY MADE UP TO RESEMBLE THE **REAL DOCTOR DOOM!**

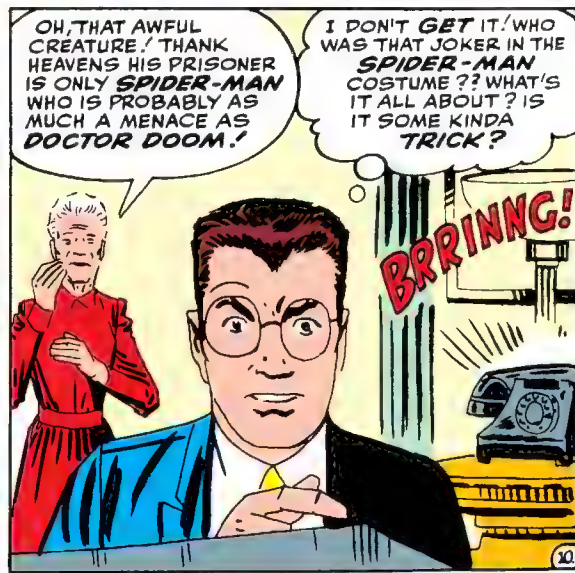
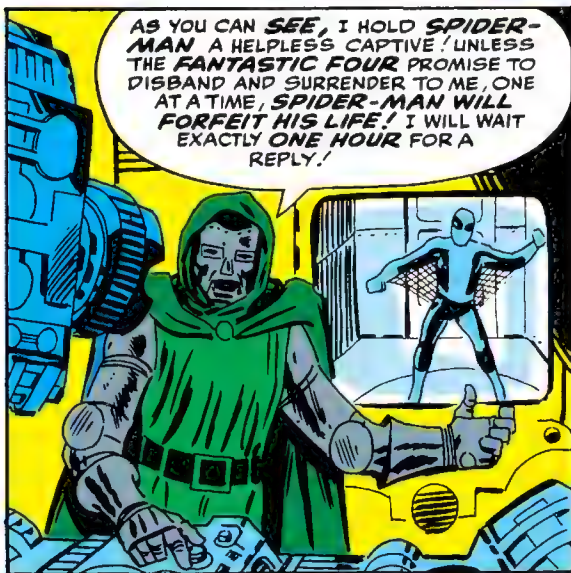
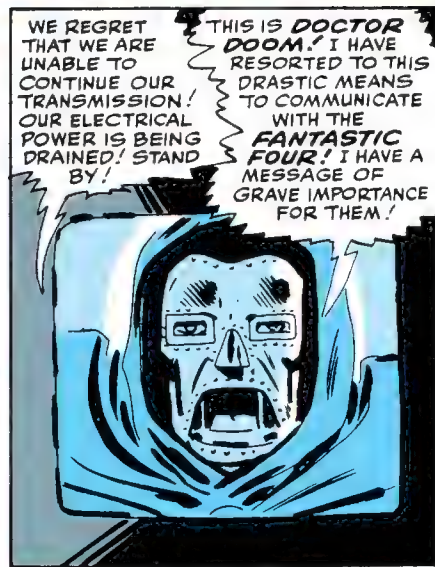
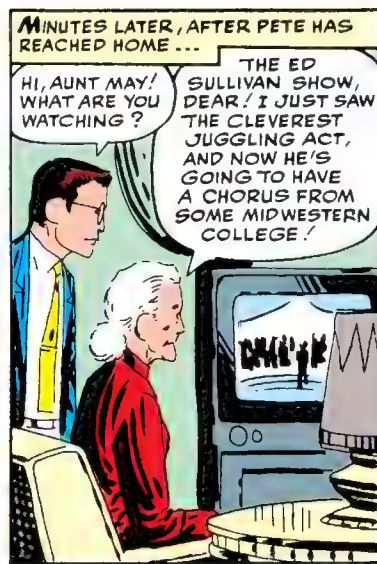
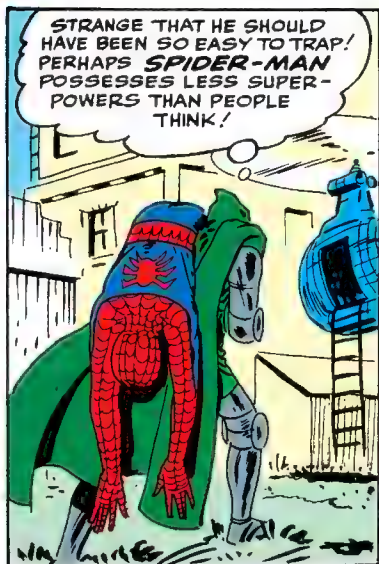
NATURALLY! YOU ARE NOT FIGHTING ONE OF YOUR USUAL INSIDIOUS ANTAGONISTS NOW, SPIDER-MAN! **DOCTOR DOOM** CANNOT BE TRAPPED SO EASILY!

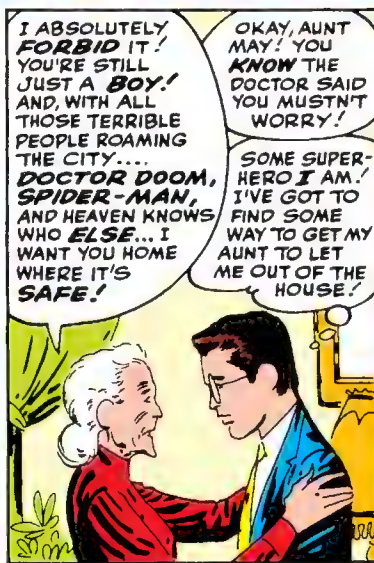
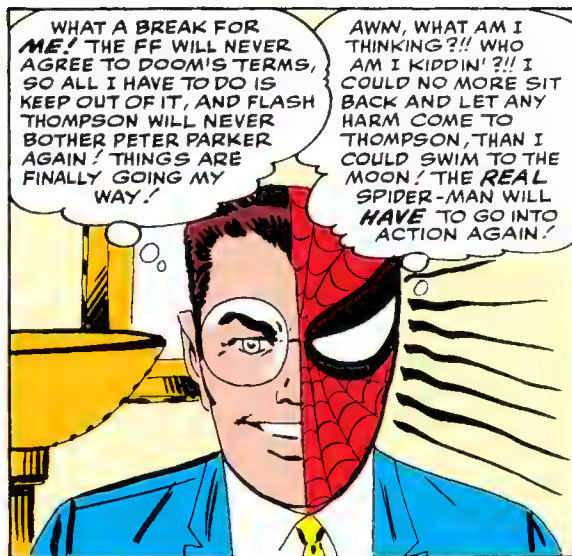


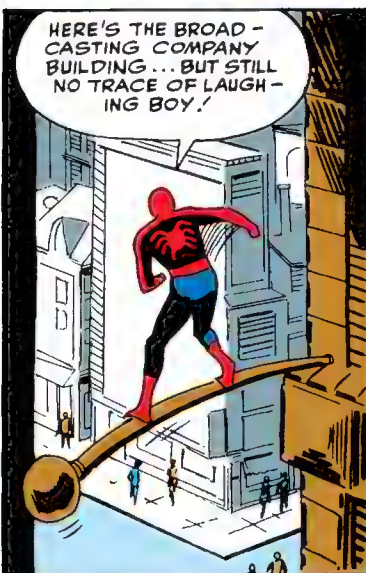
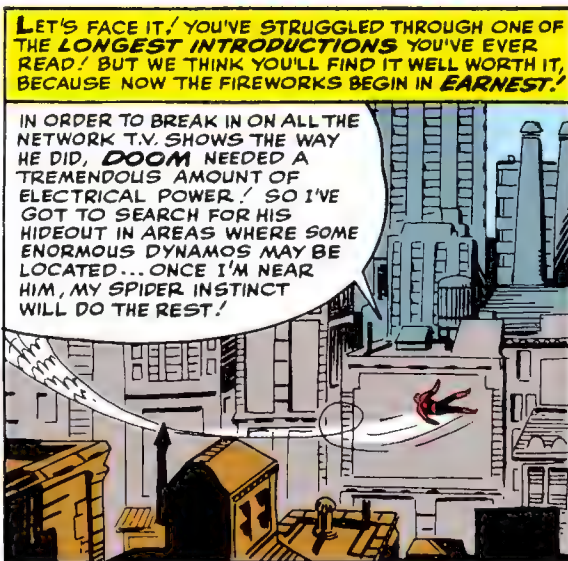
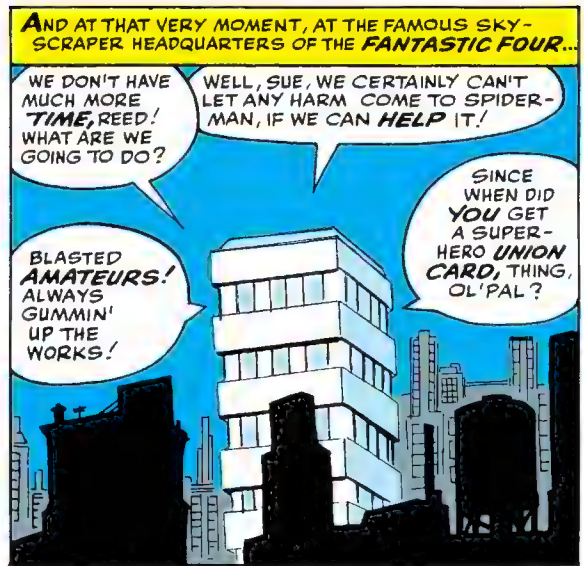
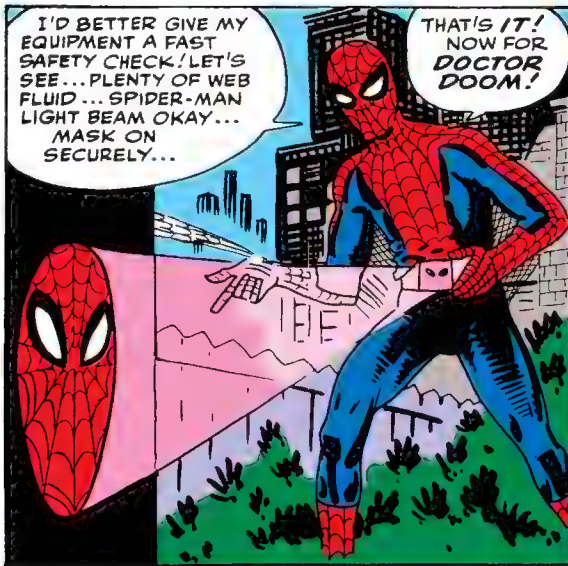


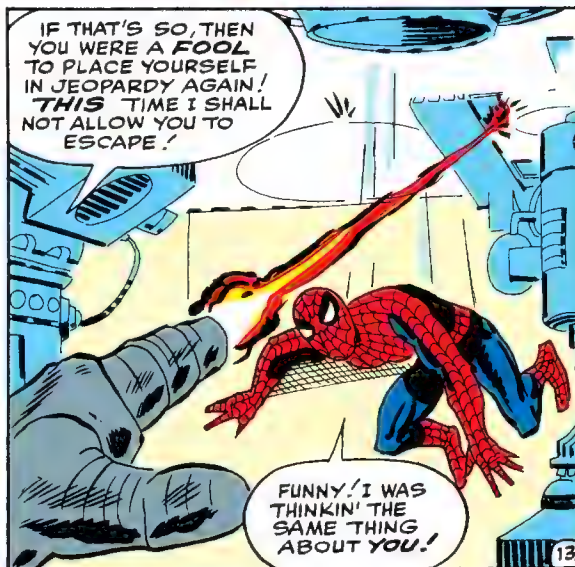
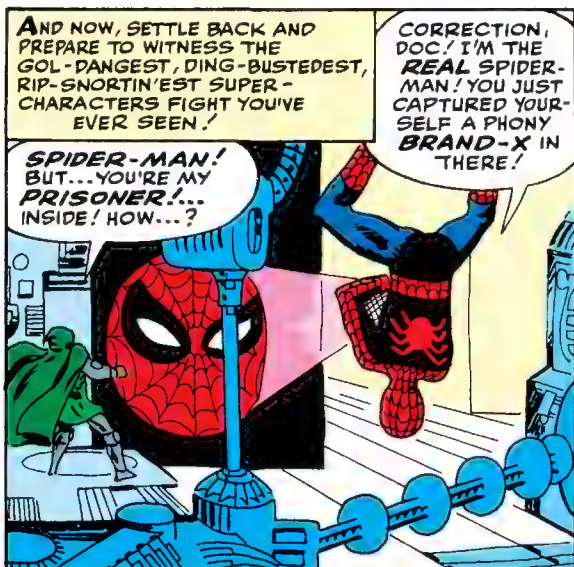
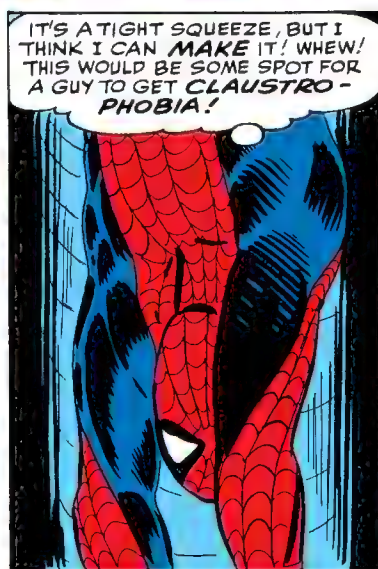
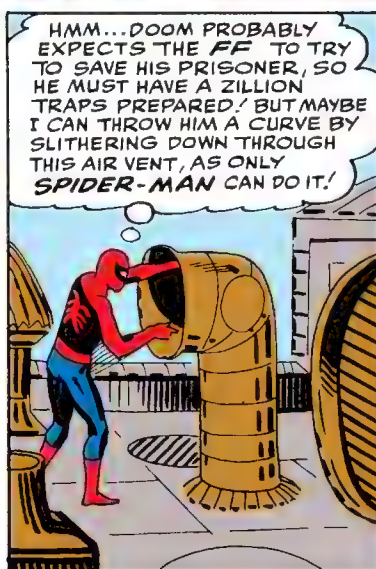
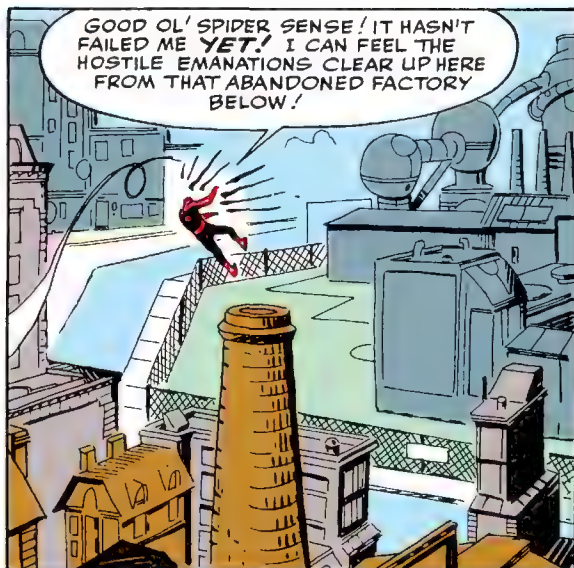


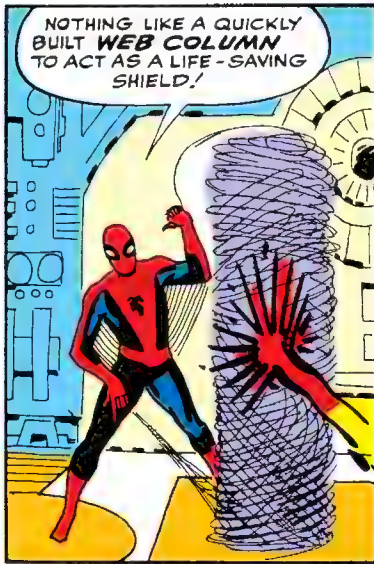




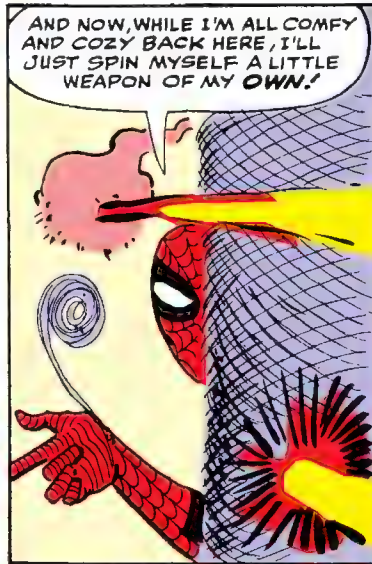








NOTHING LIKE A QUICKLY BUILT **WEB COLUMN** TO ACT AS A LIFE-**SAVING SHIELD!**



AND NOW, WHILE I'M ALL COMFY AND COZY BACK HERE, I'LL JUST SPIN MYSELF A LITTLE WEAPON OF MY **OWN!**

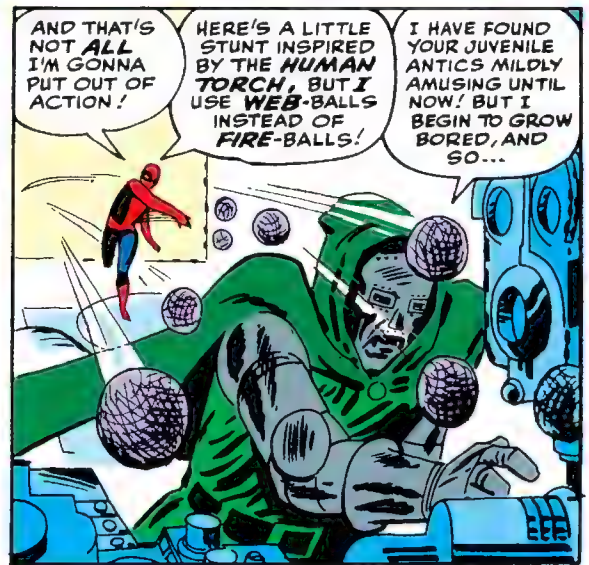


HERE WE ARE! HOPE I DIDN'T KEEP YOU WAITING TOO LONG, **RUSTPOT!** BUT IT TAKES A FEW SECONDS TO MAKE A **WEB BALL** FILLED WITH **WEB FLUID!**



YOU'VE GOT TO ADMIT **ONE** THING, THOUGH... IT'S A GREAT WAY TO TEACH SOMEONE THAT IT ISN'T POLITE TO **POINT!**

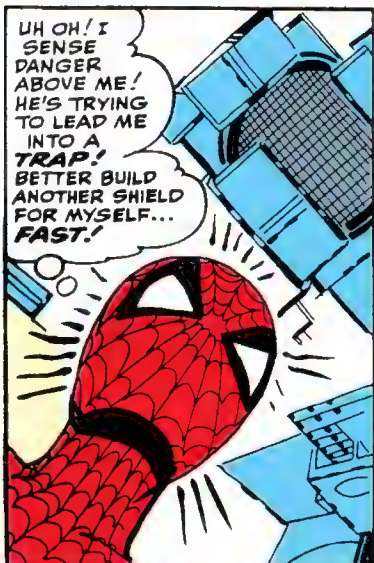
VERY CLEVER, SPIDER-MAN! YOU HAVE TEMPORARILY PUT MY FINGER-BLASTER OUT OF ACTION!



AND THAT'S NOT **ALL** I'M GONNA PUT OUT OF ACTION!

HERE'S A LITTLE STUNT INSPIRED BY THE **HUMAN TORCH**, BUT I USE **WEB-BALLS** INSTEAD OF **FIRE-BALLS!**

I HAVE FOUND YOUR JUVENILE ANTICS MILDLY AMUSING UNTIL NOW! BUT I BEGIN TO GROW BORED, AND SO...



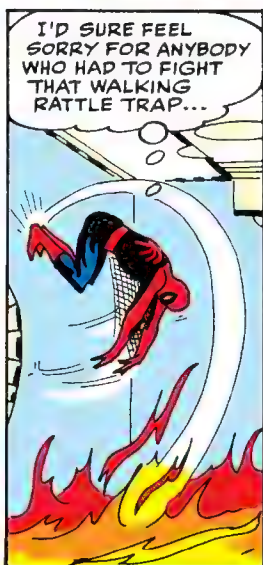
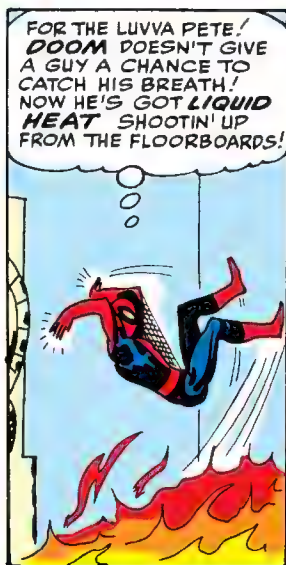
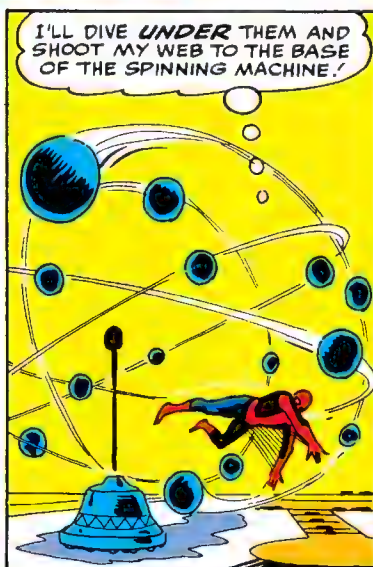
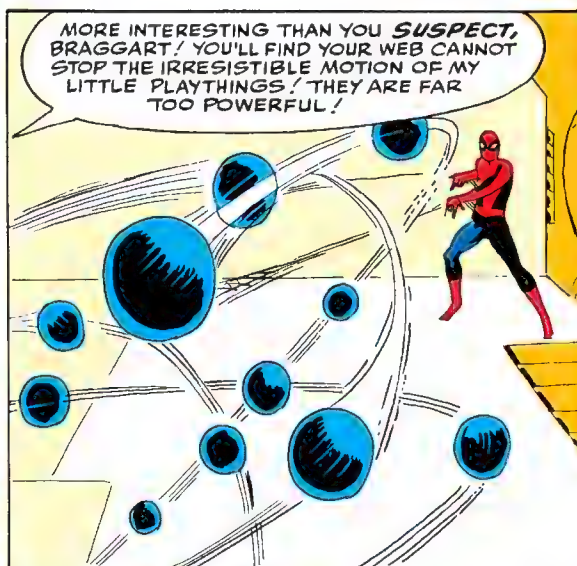
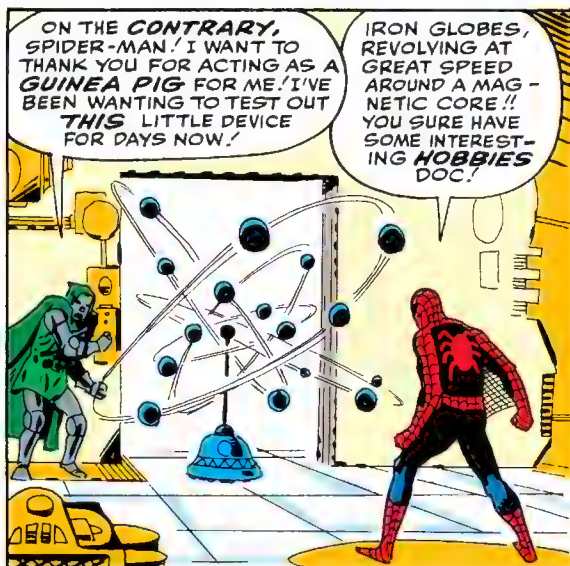
UH OH! I SENSE DANGER ABOVE ME! HE'S TRYING TO LEAD ME INTO A **TRAP!** BETTER BUILD ANOTHER SHIELD FOR MYSELF... **FAST!**

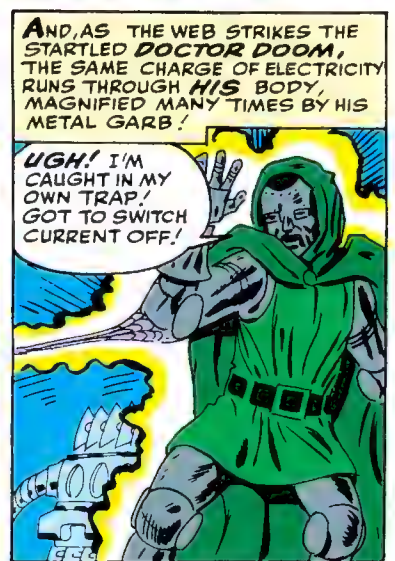
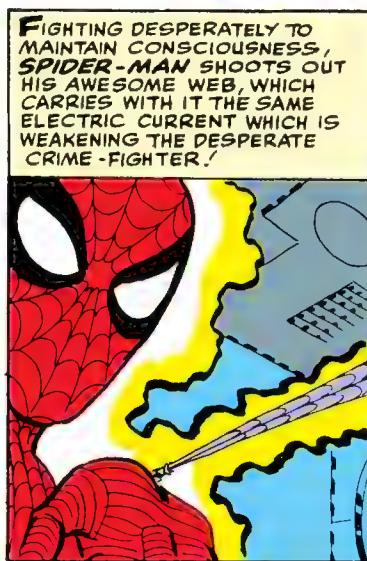
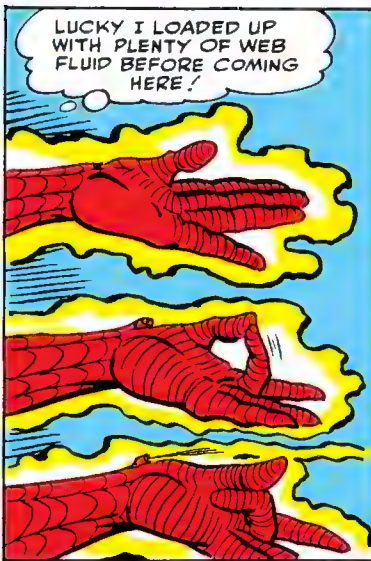
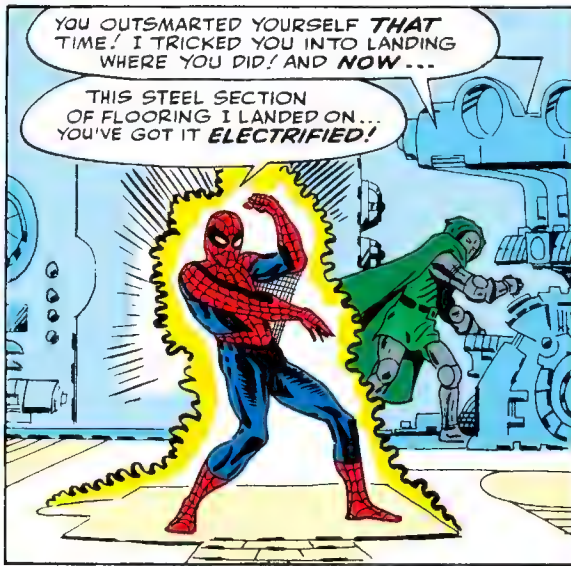


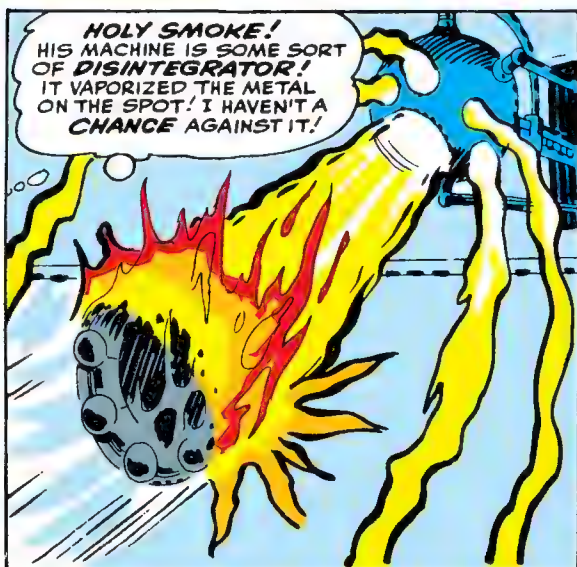
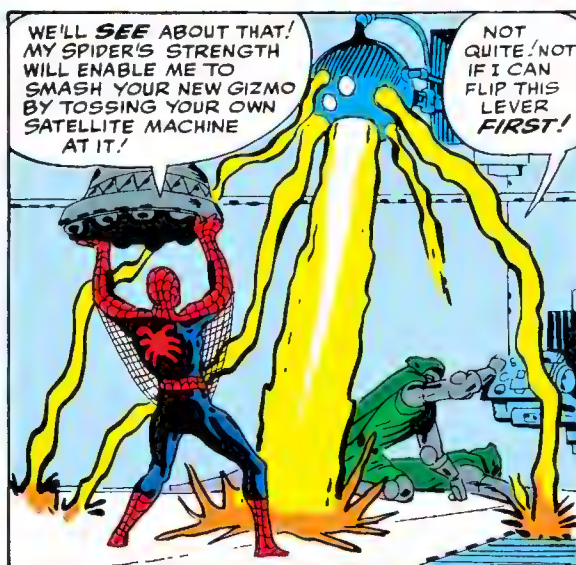
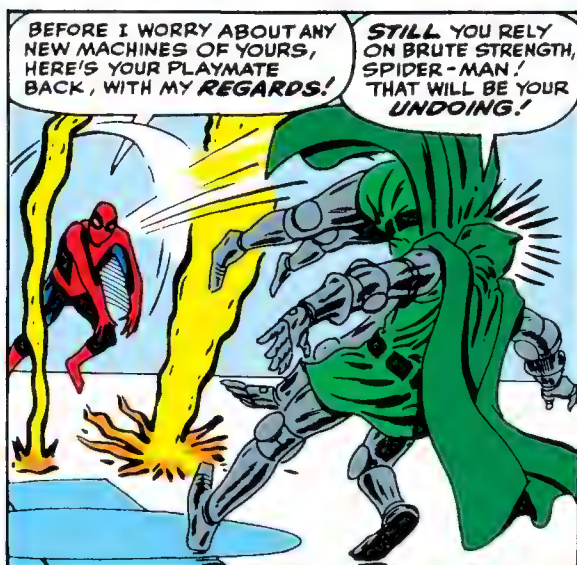
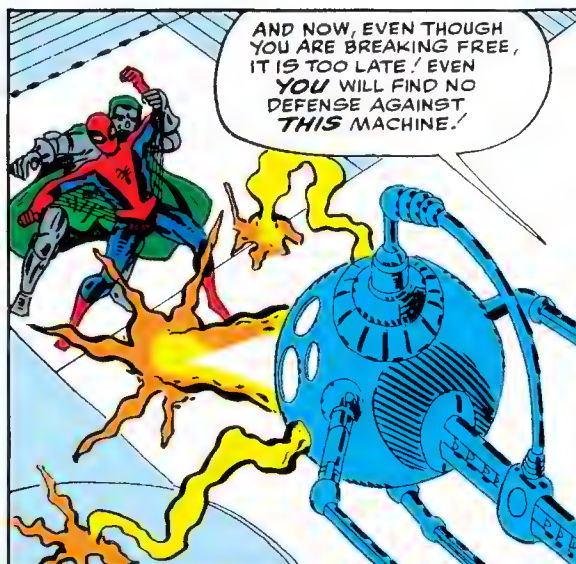
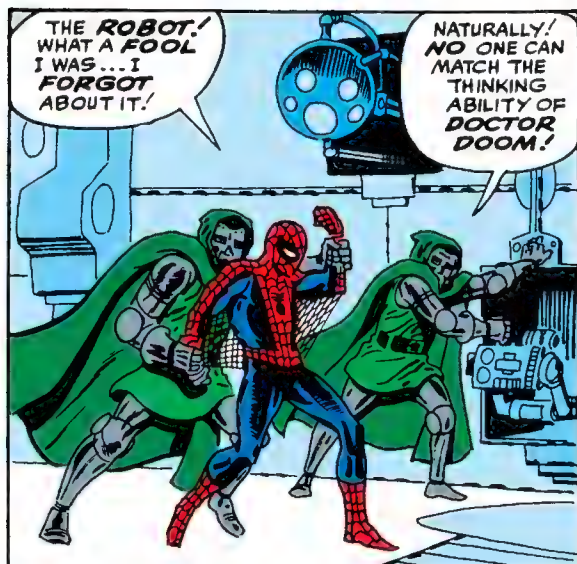
JUST IN TIME! THAT FALLING LIQUID IS TURNING INTO **ICE** ON CONTACT! IT MIGHT HAVE FROZEN ME SOLID!

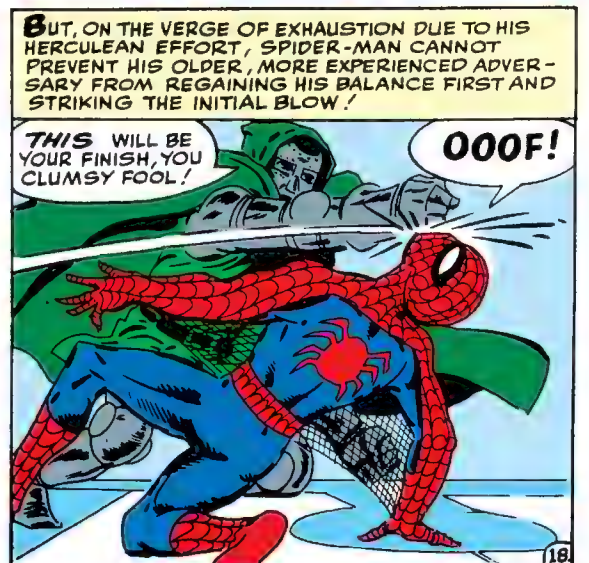
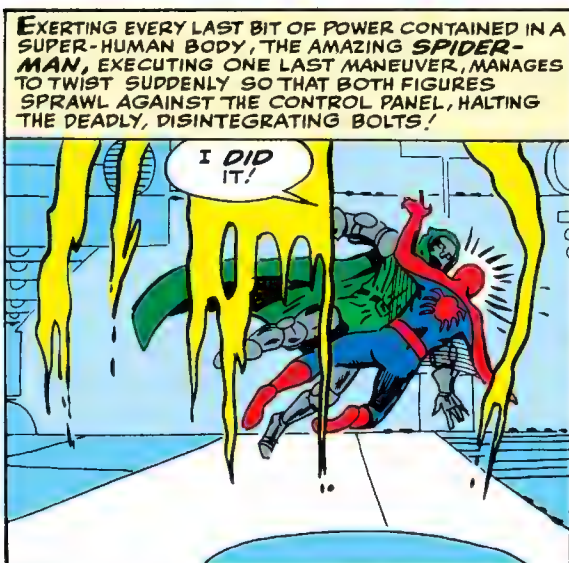
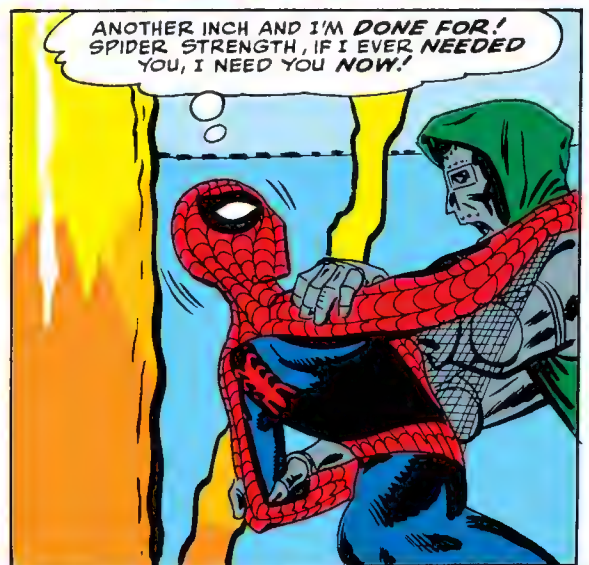
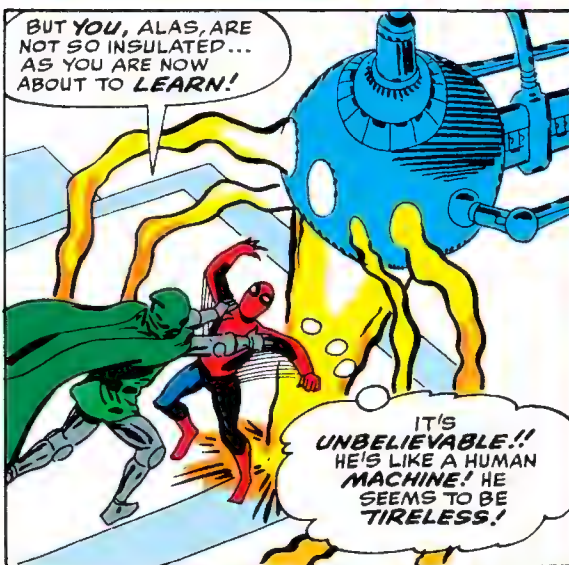
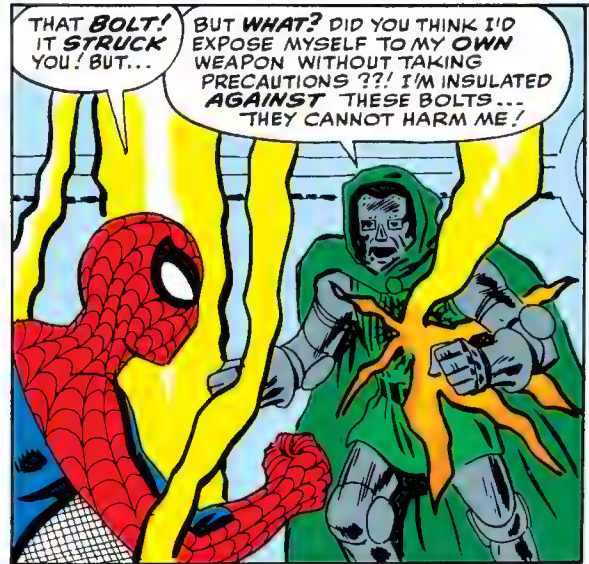
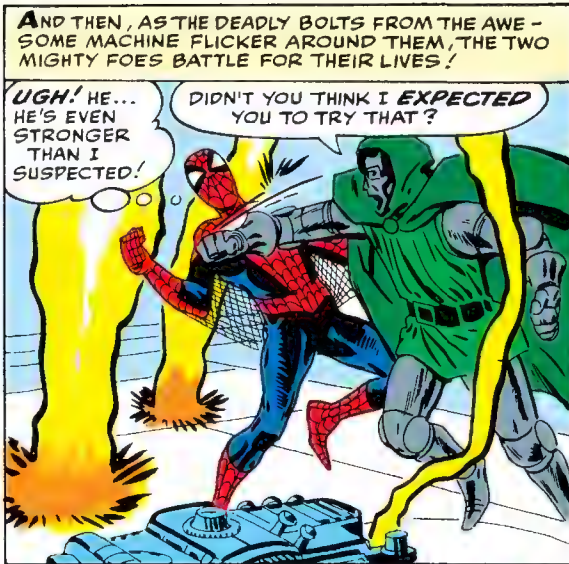


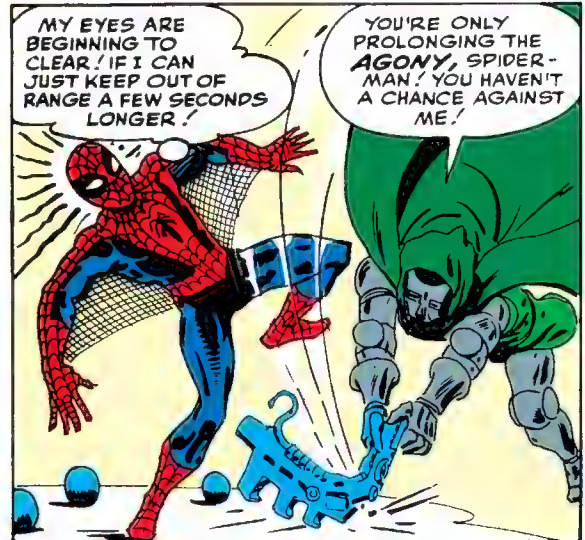
WELL, A MISS IS AS GOOD AS A MILE. READY TO TALK **TURKEY** YET, DOOM??

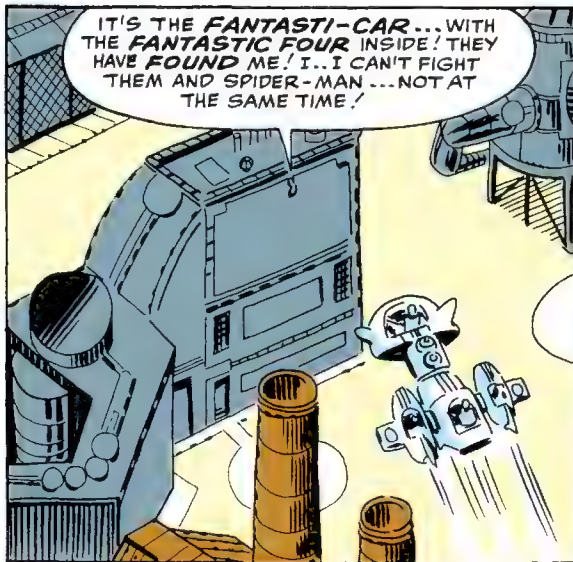




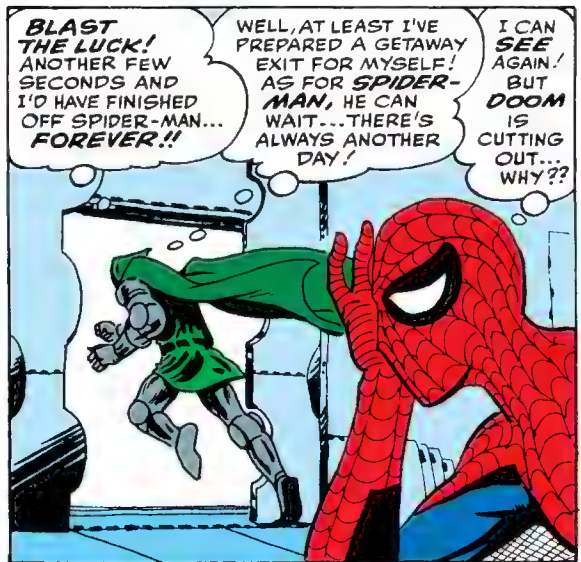








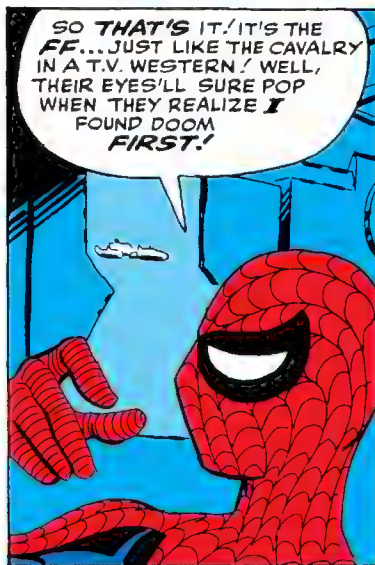
IT'S THE **FANTASTI-CAR**... WITH THE **FANTASTIC FOUR** INSIDE! THEY HAVE **FOUND** ME! I... I CAN'T FIGHT THEM AND **SPIDER-MAN**... NOT AT THE SAME TIME!



BLAST THE LUCK! ANOTHER FEW SECONDS AND I'D HAVE FINISHED OFF **SPIDER-MAN**... **FOREVER!!**

WELL, AT LEAST I'VE PREPARED A GETAWAY EXIT FOR MYSELF! AS FOR **SPIDER-MAN**, HE CAN WAIT... THERE'S ALWAYS ANOTHER DAY!

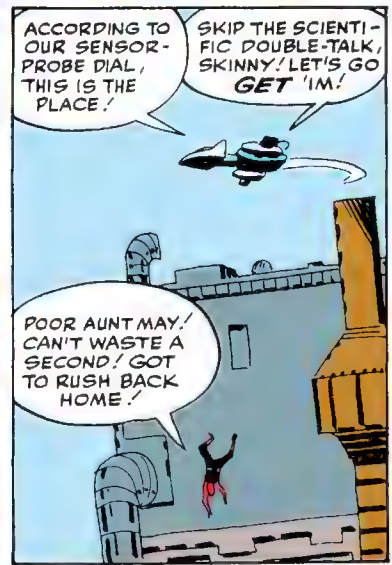
I CAN **SEE** AGAIN! BUT **DOOM** IS CUTTING OUT... WHY??



SO **THAT'S** IT! IT'S THE **FF**... JUST LIKE THE CAVALRY IN A T.V. WESTERN! WELL, THEIR EYES'LL SURE POP WHEN THEY REALIZE I FOUND **DOOM** **FIRST!**



WAIT A MINUTE! I JUST REMEMBERED! **AUNT MAY!** I LEFT HER ALONE AT HOME! SHE'S PROBABLY BESIDE HERSELF WITH WORRY ABOUT ME BY NOW!



ACCORDING TO OUR SENSOR-PROBE DIAL, THIS IS THE PLACE!

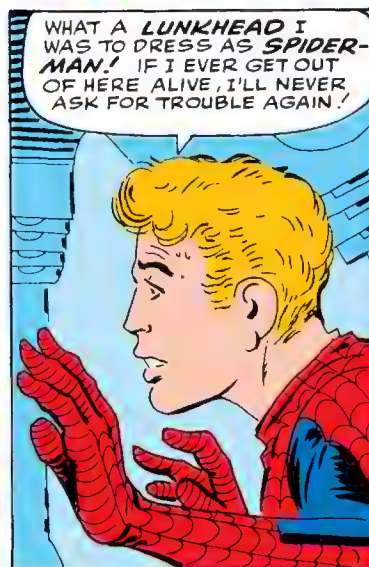
SKIP THE SCIENTIFIC DOUBLE-TALK, **SKINNY!** LET'S GO **GET 'IM!**

POOR **AUNT MAY!** CAN'T WASTE A SECOND! GOT TO RUSH BACK HOME!

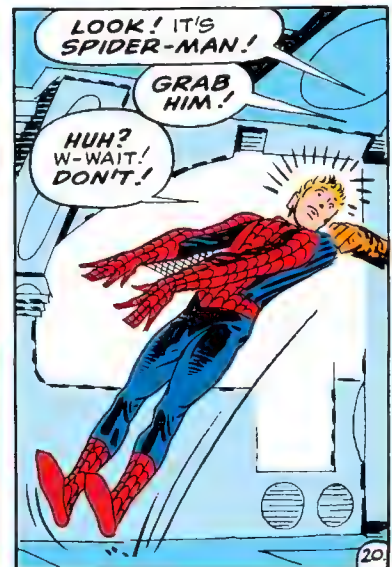


MEANWHILE, IN **DR. DOOM'S** NOW-ABANDONED HIDEOUT, **FLASH THOMPSON** FINDS HIMSELF FREE SINCE THE ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED!..

DR. DOOM... HE'S **GONE!** I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, BUT I'M STILL IN ONE PIECE!



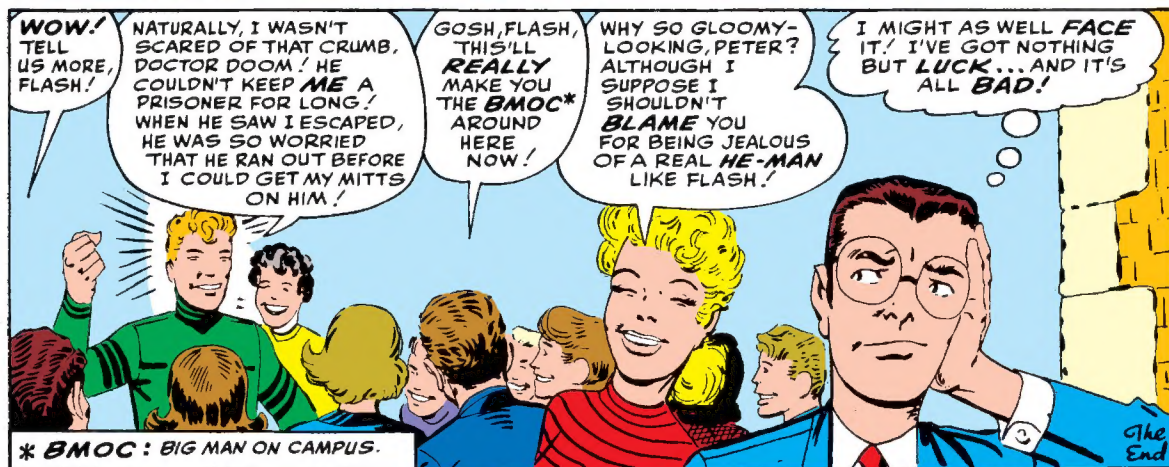
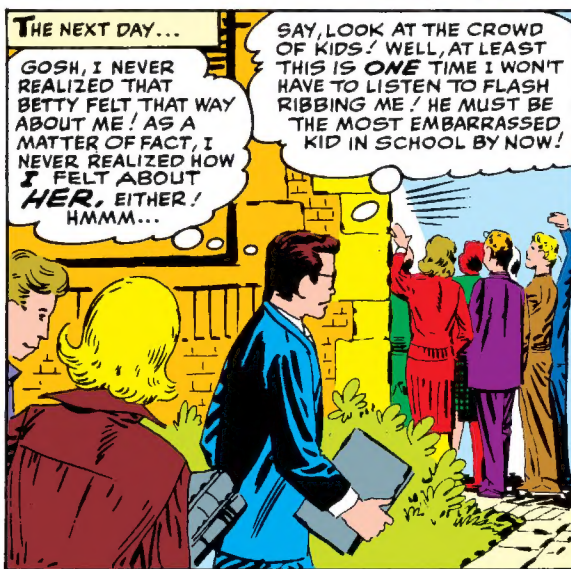
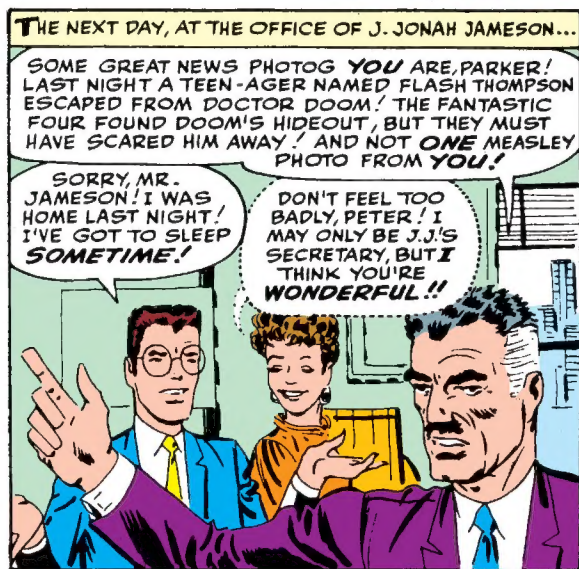
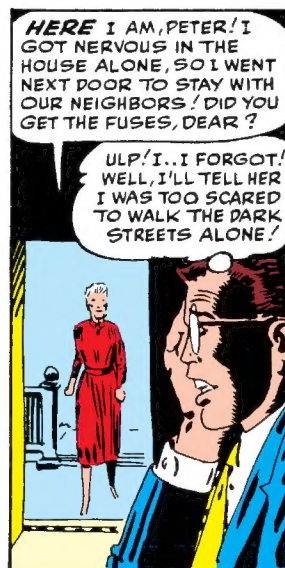
WHAT A **LUNKHEAD** I WAS TO DRESS AS **SPIDER-MAN!** IF I EVER GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE, I'LL NEVER ASK FOR TROUBLE AGAIN!



LOOK! IT'S **SPIDER-MAN!**

GRAB HIM!

HUH? W-WAIT! DON'T!



THANKS TO YOUR OVERWHELMING RESPONSE TO PETER PARKER'S OFF-BEAT ADVENTURES, **SPIDER-MAN** IS NOW PUBLISHED **MONTHLY!** DON'T BE A JOHNNY-COME-LATELY! RESERVE YOUR COPY OF THE SENSATIONAL ISSUE #6 AT YOUR NEWSDEALER **NOW!** YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THE NEW SUPER-VILLAINS, SUPER-ADVENTURES, AND SUPER-SURPRISES IN STORE FOR YOU!



SPIDER'S WEB

Please address
your letters to:
THE SPIDER'S WEB
Third Floor
655 Madison Ave.
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Stan and Steve:

Subject: Amazing Spider-Man #3.

Opinion: The Greatest!

Yep, that's right! I've just finished reading Spider-Man #3 for the fourth time and have come to the previous conclusion. Dr. Octopus is the most original villain I've seen in my four years of comics reading. The guest appearance of the Human Torch came unexpectedly. His speech not only raised Spider-Man's hopes, but it encouraged me, too. One complaint, though—on page 10, panel 6, you have Dr. Octopus thinking, "The security police aren't apt to notice an extra pipe or two up on the ceiling." That's just like him saying, "The security police aren't apt to notice an extra former atomic scientist up on the ceiling." The two spectacular Spider-Man versus Dr. Octopus battles were well handled. My brother and I, after reading one of your comics, analyzed it. From our studies we have found: 1) Too many of your villains are formerly "the greatest atomic scientists in the country." 2) You put in many instances, much more wording into the captions than the actual panels. 3) Your villains use too formal language for a hectic situation. 4) Many of your heroes (Sgt. Fury, for example) give the inexperienced reader the impression that they are inhuman rough-necks. A good example is the cover of Sgt. Fury #1. It depicts him saying, "Keep movin', you lunkheads! Nobody lives forever! So get out the lead and follow me! We got us a war to win!" If all of your stories are as good as #3 you'll go a long way.

Richard Cohen
722 E. 102nd St.
Brooklyn 36, N. Y.

Correction, Dick! Sgt. Fury said "Get the lead out—" not "Get out the lead—"! See, if we want to find fault with YOUR material—! But, thanks for an interesting letter, R. C.

Dear Stan and Steve:

Congratulations on SPIDER-MAN #3!! It was a great issue and I thought it surpassed your other comics by far. I, for one, do not like these "book-length" stories that you are putting out, except in the FANTASTIC FOUR. SPIDER-MAN should have at least two stories per issue in order to give us a little more variety. I guess ever since that horrible year of 1954, when the crime books were at their peak and the Comics Code came in, you publishers either haven't had a chance to put out a good "robbery" story or else the readers like the super-villain better. Your SPIDER-MAN is both a human-interest story and an exciting book to read. I am against your new titles inside. They are so small and insignificant that I barely noticed them. I suggest that you use a much larger title. Steve Ditko is my favorite artist. He has a very good, but weird style that is hard to copy. The action scenes were the best I've ever seen in SPIDER-MAN or any of your magazines (all of them) is that your company has some pretty bad inkers for the fine quality of pencil artists you have. If this matter were cleared up, I am certain that your company would soon climb to the top. One last thing about Ditko's art—he just can't draw feet right!! They look

out of shape and flat. I don't want to hear collectors calling my favorite hero a "flatfoot"—do you??? It's good that you have Peter Parker using his other talents once in a while for a change from his spider powers. This is the first hero that I've seen that is ridiculed by his school-mates and uses his knowledge of chemistry as a weapon. Also, it's nice that you have a "poor" boy with powers unlike all those crazy millionaires that have been floating around for years. I greatly enjoyed your SPIDER-MAN Pin-up Page. It's the first I've seen that gave a really big picture of my hero. John Duffy is one of your best letterers. In fact, there isn't anything that I don't like about the whole book. It's tremendous, colossal, stupendous, and on the whole—just plain marvelous! This gives a slight impression of how I feel about "Spi" and your entire company!!!

Dan Fleming
430 Beach Street
Ottawa, Kansas

You've mentioned so many points, Dan, that we don't know WHICH to comment about! But, we have a hunch some of our readers will have quite a bit to say about your opinions. As for us, we're delighted that you, and our other perceptive readers, take such a keen interest in our Marvel mags.

Dear Stan and Steve:

Stan, you have struck again. If I thought the first Spider-Man tale was good, I should have waited till the second and third. WOW, and a few more for flavor! The only thing I truly regret is that Steve Ditko's art distorted the Four to the point where it was agony to this dyed-in-the-wool-Four fan to see them. Spider-Man he can do well—I honestly can't picture him any other way—but the others! I suggest any more feature appearances be made by S-M (Sub-Mariner's initials?) in other magazines.

Paul Moslander
1206 31 Avenue
San Mateo, Calif.

We have a hunch there'll be a number of guest appearances in our various mags, employing our different heroes, because judging by your letters, it's something which most of you fans enjoy. Some future guest shots will be announced beforehand, while some will be sprung on you unexpectedly! So keep watching!

Dear Stan and Steve:

What a story you put out for the SPIDER-MAN #3 magazine! The strangest foe of all time—DOCTOR OCTOPUS! Boy, you fellas weren't kidding! He's terrific! One thing about your villains: They're all so interesting that any one of them could be featured in a mag of his own! Where do you ever think up your stories? They're all so different, and there's never a let-down! You may have guessed by now—you're my favorites!

Richard Jankowski
47 New York Ave.
Dunkirk, N. Y.

What do you MEAN where do we think up our stories??? Haven't we convinced you that they're all TRUE? Anyway, we thank you for your enthusiasm, and our villains thank you too!

CONTINUED...

Dear Stan and Steve:

To get to the point, needless to say, you've got a hit on your hands! Please, no more shocks like the last one. What do I mean by shock? I'll tell you. I went out to the store one day looking for new comics, and here's what I found: 1) SPIDER-MAN #1 with guest stars, the Fantastic Four - great. 2) FANTASTIC FOUR #12 with the Hulk - great. 3) STRANGE TALES #106 with the F.F. I fainted right there on the spot!

Sid Wright
Worcester, Mass.

Not before paying your twelve cents, we hope!

Dear Stan and Steve:

Spider-Man #2... who's coming up with the great villains all of a sudden!? Not that I don't like super-powerful villains like Sub-Mariner and super geniuses like Doc Doom, but I like a good "gimmick" hero, too, like the Vulture. The bit about Jameson paying off the person he hates the most is a great one; let's have more of it. However, what happens if Jameson decides that Parker should go out with one of his reporters to do a team story. As a matter of fact, it might not be a bad idea if that reporter was a girl (maybe even Jameson's daughter!) and she found out Spider-Man's secret ID. It would be quite a joke on Jameson to have his own daughter a secret ally of Spider-Man's. One little thing I noticed: so many characters have gloves as part of their costume, yet you never can figure out how they get rid of them when they're in their civilian identity. They make a switch and voila... the gloves are gone. I was glad to see the Spider-Man has met the problem! Steve-Ditko's art is improving tremendously. He draws swinging aliens. One thing I like about Spider-Man is your finally having a character who can actually fight the "Cotton-pickin'" bad guys. No one dares lay a glove on Thing, or Thor, or Iron Man. None of the others, except Spider-Man, are the type of hero to make use of their fists. Ditko does a pretty fair-to-middling job of fight scenes, too!

Steve Perrin
4420 Meadowlark Lane
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Fair-to-middling????! Boy, you'd probably say that MOZART was a pretty average composer, too!



Dear Stan and Steve:

Just finished reading SPIDER-MAN #3. It was great as usual. One small suggestion - why don't you have a page or even a half-page telling your readers when your comics will be going on sale? I would like to know when to visit my newsstand to buy your better than usual comics.

Cory Reed
Johnstown, Pa.

We appreciate your interest, and your suggestion, Cory. Our mags go on sale at different times depending when each individual store decides to put them on display. We'd only be able to give APPROXIMATE on-sale dates, and after you've followed a mag for a while, you'll probably have as good an idea when it goes on sale as we do.

Dear Stan and Steve:

I am an avid fan of the costumed super-heroes of all the companies, but Spider-Man is the best of all of them in my opinion. For one thing, he has no allies, the world hates him, his powers are unique, his costume is colorful, and his secret identity is really secret. His costume is excellent because I can appreciate the tough time you must have had drawing all the webs over him. The red and dark blue or black balance each other very well and his bright white eyes set in black fall into the suit's composition perfectly. The spider emblem lets everyone know that there is one and only one Spider-Man. I am glad Aunt May doesn't know her nephew is Spider-Man. Now many interesting situations may arise. Also, there are no shrimps helping him. Sure, Peter is a square, but if everyone knew he were Spider-Man, he would be a hero to his school chums and a target. Everything as far as his identity goes is fine with me. Finally, I want to start a Spider-Man Fan Club to promote him. I feel that he will become the most popular super-hero in years. There are many projects in planning, as an opinion page, a Spider-Man Fan Club book, and a member sheet. I need quite a few members for these projects, and with a nation-wide fan club, the results would be terrific.

David Coleman
217 Kenwood Ave.
Rochester 11, N. Y.

You've got our blessing, Davey boy - just so long as YOU handle the mail and not US!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SECTION:

- **ITEM ONE:** Guest appearance info! SPIDER-MAN is really in the limelight this month, guest-starring in two Marvel Comics Group annuals! The first is STRANGE TALES ANNUAL, in which SPIDER-MAN is featured with the fiery HUMAN TORCH, in an 18-page thriller-diller! Then, before the smoke clears, you'll find him also in the FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL in a tale which shows him in the kind of action you fans have been clamoring for!
- **ITEM TWO:** News from Marvel! By now you've probably heard of our latest super-hero title—the X-MEN! We here at Marvel are especially anxious for your opinions on the first issue of X-MEN, for we honestly believe it is destined to become one of the most talked about teams in comics mag history! Also, have you seen the big, action-packed first issue of the AVENGERS? — It stars some of your all time favorites—IRON MAN, THOR, ANT-MAN, and, more powerful than ever, the incredible HULK. Yes, they're all together in one book-length tale, in the now-famous Lee-Kirby style!
- **ITEM THREE:** This month's Marvel line-up! Look for these great features on your newsstands this month: FANTASTIC FOUR #19: The FF take a trip thru time to solve the macabre mystery of the Sphinx! TALES OF SUSPENSE #46: IRON MAN faces a foe who was specially trained to defeat him — the CRIMSON DYNAMO! STRANGE TALES #113: The HUMAN TORCH meets a super-villain you'll never forget — the PLANTMAN! TALES TO ASTONISH #48: Not to be outdone, ANT-MAN and the WASP come up against the most original foe of all — the spectacular human PORCUPINE! And, in J.R.N.Y. INTO MYSTERY #96, THOR is menaced by a foe whose magic power exceeds his own — the mad MERLIN! So, if you get the feeling that this is a good month for Marvel super-heroes — you're RIGHT!
- **ITEM FOUR:** A final word from Stan and Steve: We want to thank you for making SPIDER-MAN the smash success of the year! We promise to do our best to continue to merit your loyalty and to keep SPIDER-MAN the greatest, most original, most exciting super-hero of all!

(Ed. note: SPIDER-MAN #6 goes on sale approximately Aug. 8. Ask your newsdealer to reserve your copy now!)

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